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Dear Damian,

As you know, the Ukraine presidential election is coming up on March 31st and the runoff will be on April 21st. NDI will be deploying an international election mission for both the March 31st and April 21st elections, as well as parliamentary elections in the fall.

First, we would like to invite you to be a delegate on the March 31st deployment. The dates for the mission will be arrival on Friday, March 29th and leaving on Monday, April 1st. NDI will cover all transportation, lodging, and meal expenses.

Secondly, since there will almost certainly be a runoff and there is a two-week recess around that April 21st Easter Sunday date, we wanted to explore the possibility of whether a CODEL might be organized by SFRC to join the mission. Given the importance of Ukraine and the fervent desire of our local partners to have an international focus on these elections, this might be an excellent opportunity to have Senators join our mission on the ground for some portion of the week of April 15th leading up to the runoff but certainly including election day on April 21st. A CODEL obviously provides maximum flexibility in travel and allows for visits to other countries in the region.

Any initial thoughts on these possibilities Damian? It seems like a great opportunity for your policy needs, and NDI would certainly benefit from your expertise. Let us know what you think.

Best

Jerry, Laura and the Eurasia team

Jerry Hartz

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